

past 50 years and found a place in the hearts of all who know him.

Noel was born in La Brea, Trinidad in the West Indies. He attended Howard University in Washington, DC, where he received both his Bachelor's and Medical Degree. He was a Magna Cum Laude graduate and a member of the Honor Society.

His professional desire to reside in the State of California and his ambition to train in a public hospital led him to Fresno in 1951 where he interned at Fresno's University Medical Center.

After Dr. Noel Smith completed his internship, he completed his residency at the University Medical Center in Obstetrics-gynecology. Although he joined the private sector in 1958, Noel never stopped giving back to his community. He has been an active member on various committees such as the Supervisors Minority Adoption Committee, Model Cities Board Committee and Mayors Bi-Racial Committee.

Dr. Noel Smith has received many honors for his extraordinary public service to the community of Fresno. The 1990 Health Award from the NAACP Fresno Board, Portraits of Success Award from KSEE channel 24, the United Black Men Apple Award and the Education from the Black Men United are just a few of the honors he has received.

Dr. Smith understands the power of education; for this reason he and his wife have made considerable educational contributions to the community. They founded the Children-A-Go-Go at Carver Middle School in Fresno, "Young Men and Young Women of Tomorrow" at Bethune Elementary School of Fresno and made various presentations at local High Schools on "Developmental Education."

We could go on and on about the remarkable contributions that Dr. Noel Smith has made to his grateful community. He is loved by family and friends, appreciated by his patients and admired by his colleagues. It is with great pleasure that I stand today and congratulate Dr. Noel Smith for all of his achievements.

COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today authorizing the National Park Service to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on behalf of Springfield Technical Community College. Over 30 years ago, in 1974, my predecessor, Congressman Edward Boland, and Senator EDWARD KENNEDY were successful in creating the Springfield Armory National Historic Site. This legislation set in motion three decades of cooperation between the National Park Service, which manages the Armory Museum, and Springfield Technical Community College. The Park Service and the college are neighbors that together occupy the National Historic Site.

Let me tell you a little bit about this site. The Springfield Armory was the first national ar-

mory in the United States. In fact, the armory was founded in 1777, when the site was selected as the location for laboratory specializing in the development, production and storage of guns and powder during the American Revolution.

Following the American Revolutionary War, in 1794, Congress officially established the Springfield Armory. George Washington visited the site, which was also the site of Shay's Rebellion. Physically, the Armory abuts Springfield's historic State Street, the city's main east-west thoroughfare, which was Ben Franklin's famed mail route. For much of the 19th century, the Springfield Armory developed, manufactured and supplied most of the small arms used by the United States armed services. The Springfield Armory National Historic Site has a rich heritage that is an integral part of our nation's history.

In 1968, the Armory was deactivated as a military installation and in 1974, Congress established the National Historic Site. The National Park Service has operated the Armory Museum on these grounds, and it houses the most outstanding and historically significant arms collection in the country.

The future and fate of both the Armory Museum and Springfield Technical Community College are inextricably linked. Many of the historic buildings on the site are actually located on the college's property, not on National Park Service land, although a visitor to the campus would not be able to tell where NPS property ends and college property begins. This land outside the portion of the site administered by NPS is known as the "Preservation Control Area." These college-owned buildings are subject to strict architectural and preservation rules. Many of these historic buildings owned by the college must be preserved and maintained pursuant to standards defined by the Secretary of the Interior. But these historic buildings are in a state of great disrepair and the college cannot easily move to maintain and preserve them absent the full participation of the Park Service. Not only does this deterioration of the facilities hurt the college, but also undermines the attractiveness of the National Park Service area, including the Armory Museum.

My legislation seeks to recognize and update the partnership that has existed over these many years between the Park Service and the college by authorizing the Park Service to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Commonwealth. It allows for the National Park Service to provide financial assistance to the College for the purpose of maintaining, preserving, renovating and rehabilitating the many historic structures within the Springfield Armory National Historic Site. The Park Service frequently enters into such cooperative agreements where the object of the agreement is of direct benefit to the Park Service and its mission, or for other public purposes. If these great historic buildings on the site can be renovated with the assistance of the Park Service, it will bring forward a more vibrant and attractive Historic Site and Museum. The Park Service and the college will be able to partner on many joint educational ventures that utilize these revitalized historic facilities.

The Springfield Armory National Historic Site is a treasure to the city of Springfield, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and to the Nation. The site is in desperate need of renovation, and enactment of this legislation is

the first step towards ensuring the preservation of a site, which has played so vital a role in America's history.

INTRODUCING WE THE PEOPLE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the We the People Act. The We the People Act forbids Federal courts, including the Supreme Court, from adjudicating cases concerning State laws and policies relating to religious liberties or "privacy," including cases involving sexual practices, sexual orientation or reproduction. The We the People Act also protects the traditional definition of marriage from judicial activism by ensuring the Supreme Court cannot abuse the equal protection clause to redefine marriage. In order to hold Federal judges accountable for abusing their powers, the act also provides that a judge who violates the act's limitations on judicial power shall either be impeached by Congress or removed by the President, according to rules established by the Congress.

The United States Constitution gives Congress the authority to establish and limit the jurisdiction of the lower Federal courts and limit the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The Founders intended Congress to use this authority to correct abuses of power by the federal judiciary.

Some may claim that an activist judiciary that strikes down State laws at will expands individual liberty. Proponents of this claim overlook the fact that the best guarantor of true liberty is decentralized political institutions, while the greatest threat to liberty is concentrated power. This is why the Constitution carefully limits the power of the Federal Government over the States.

In recent years, we have seen numerous abuses of power by Federal courts. Federal judges regularly strike down State and local laws on subjects such as religious liberty, sexual orientation, family relations, education, and abortion. This government by Federal judiciary causes a virtual nullification of the Tenth Amendment's limitations on Federal power. Furthermore, when Federal judges impose their preferred policies on State and local governments, instead of respecting the policies adopted by those elected by, and thus accountable to, the people, republican government is threatened. Article IV, section 40 of the United States Constitution guarantees each State a republican form of government. Thus, Congress must act when the executive or judicial branch threatens the republican governments of the individual States. Therefore, Congress has a responsibility to stop Federal judges from running roughshod over State and local laws. The Founders would certainly have supported congressional action to reign in Federal judges who tell citizens where they can and can't place manger scenes at Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, even some supporters of liberalized abortion laws have admitted that the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision, which overturned the abortion laws of all 50 States, is flawed. The Supreme Court's Establishment Clause jurisdiction has also drawn criticism